

Madras cadet wins air rifle gold medal



Jessi Richardson, a Madras High School senior, takes aim practicing for the precision air rifle competition in Colorado Springs. She took home the gold in the competition.

By Jeanene Harlick
The Bend Bulletin

Madras High School Senior Jessi Richardson brought home the gold in precision air rifle shooting after competing in the Army Western Region JROTC Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo., last month.

Up against the Western Region's top 90 junior shooters, Richardson earned a score of

1,268.5 out of a possible 1,290. Her nearest competitor was 12 points behind.

The title won her a trip to the National JROTC Championships later this month in Fort Benning, Ga.

It was Richardson and five teammates' first trip to the Olympic Training Center for the regional championships, which were held from Feb. 25 through 28. To qualify, they beat out shooters from six states as well as from Guam and American Samoa.

Madras Freshmen Brandon McGregor and Joanna Williams placed 22nd and 67th, respectively, in the sporter shooting division. Senior Adrienne Street earned 29th in the precision category.

Sporter shooters compete with simple pump-air rifles and less supportive gear than their precision counterparts, who use guns with more precise aim that also may be customized for the individual shooters. Both sports use harmless lead pellets.

Shooters have 15 minutes to hit circular targets from three positions - lying, kneeling and

standing.

Richardson hopes to pay her way through college with a scholarship in precision shooting. She's currently eyeing schools on the East coast.

Richardson said the focused atmosphere of the regional championships, as well as the presence of Olympic level shooters, pushed her to a higher level.

"I just got into a zone where I felt more comfortable shooting than I ever have," she said.



Best Teacher honor goes to Silver Star winner



Capt. Jeff McCoy

Story and photo by
Lt. Col. Jackson Self
Colorado State University

On Feb. 20, Colorado State University presented Capt. Jeff McCoy one of the university's most prestigious honors. McCoy was selected as one of six "best-teachers" for the school year. The Colorado State University Student Alumni Association each year selects six award recipients from nominations received by students during the closing weeks of the Fall school semester. Over 400 nominations were turned in, representing a teaching body of over a thousand professors and instructors from which to choose.

McCoy recently served as a troop commander in 3rd Infantry Division and is relatively new to the ROTC program. He arrived at Colorado State in July of 2003 after participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom and earning the Silver Star Medal. Since that time, he served as

Bogalusa High School takes top team

Courtesy of Bogalusa JROTC

The Sporter Three-Position Air Rifle team from Bogalusa, La., continued its tradition of excellence Feb. 25 through 28 by winning the Western Region's air rifle championship matches held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The team, coached by Rick Fredieu, who is Senior Army Instructor at Bogalusa High School, consisted of JROTC cadet team members Cody Cleland, Charles Henley, Blake Phillips and Tucker Lee. They coasted to victory after posting a 37-point lead after the first day of shooting, a score putting them over second place Alhambra High School from Arizona.

Bogalusa has been on a roll since 2001 when the team won its first State Junior Olympic and National Championship. That same year, Bogalusa won the American Legion as well as the NRA National Championship and sent three shooters to the American Legion individual championships. Cadet Brandon Green, then a sophomore was the individual American Legion sporter champion in 2001.

The year 2002 found the team back on the

winners' stand, again taking the Louisiana state Junior Olympics and National Junior Olympic championships and the Army National Guard National Championships, which allowed the team to shoot in the British National Championships in Bisley, England. Cadet Brian Phillips, who now shoots for the University of Memphis, was the Guard National Champion in that match. In England, the team finished second behind Ireland and Brandon Green, a shooter from Bogalusa who now shoots for the Army Marksmanship Unit, was the overall gold medalist.

In 2003, the team again won the Louisiana State Junior Olympic Championships and placed fifth at the National Junior Olympic championships in Willmington, N.C. In true Bogalusa fashion, the team came back the next week besting the Junior Olympic championship team from Clinton, S.C., by a very close 10 points to win the National Guard National Championship. Later in 2003, three shooters from Bogalusa participated in the American Legion Nationals with Cadet Cody Cleland winning the individual Sporter event.

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See "McCoy" on Page 6

We are coming to the end of another school year. This, however, has not been “just another year” in Cadet Command, or for our nation. This has been a year of change for all of us, and foremost among these are the changes made in our summer training program for Senior Program cadets. The evolution of the former Advanced Camp through the years has generally lagged behind the needs of the Army and the realities of the world in which our Senior Cadets will serve as lieutenants. In the late 1980s, we called this experience “Camp Adventure,” and then the “National Advanced Leadership Camp,” when we began sending all senior program cadets to Fort Lewis in order to ensure standardization of training, assessments and also to realize some financial economies.

Now, our nation is at war. The Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Pete Schoomaker, has assessed the state of our Army and very rightly determined that



Col. Steven R. Corbett

we need to refocus our leadership and training imperatives to increase our focus upon the Warrior Ethos - the creed by which American Soldiers ensure victory for our nation. In order to better prepare our senior program cadets for their duties as lieutenants in the Army, “Advanced Camp” is changing. Now known

as the Leader Development and Assessment Course in our college curriculum, each summer’s iteration of training will be identified under the operational term of “Warrior Forge.”

Among the tenets of the American Soldier’s Creed, there are four critical imperatives:

- I will always place the mission first
- I will never accept defeat
- I will never quit
- I will never leave a fallen comrade

These form the cornerstone of our ethos as Soldiers, and our cadets will see several changes in Warrior Forge training that are designed to reinforce these tenets. Bluntly, “Camp” will be harder this summer than it has been in many years. Cadets will spend increased time training under field conditions, including a continuous eight-day field problem. Tactical Officers and NCOs will conduct more comprehensive assessments of our cadets in both leadership and “followership” positions, and the evaluation process itself is redesigned

to provide a more comprehensive assessment of a cadet’s potential and capabilities, based upon finite standards of performance.

We will retain the critical and delicate balance between training cadets and allowing them to develop and be assessed. We must, however, ensure that our cadets are fully prepared for the rigors and realities of service in today’s Army, operating in the world as we know it today. I believe this is long overdue.

I encourage all cadets to perform to their utmost, and trust the training that they received on campus. Our nation and our Army need leaders who are flexible, intelligent, physically and mentally tough and imbued with the core tenets of the Warrior Ethos. I firmly believe that this summer’s training will hone these attributes, challenge our cadets, and ensure that our lieutenants are better prepared for service in the 21st century.

I look forward to seeing you at Warrior Forge, and know that you will all do your very best.

As we come to the close of another school year, let me take a few moments to underscore the value of preparation. We are in the business of developing leaders, so naturally we tend to think the instructors should be prepared for teaching the various classes and events that aid in turning cadets into lieutenants.

But today my message is for you cadets: the MS-IIIs and commissionees who will face important decisions and events in the next few months. Use this time from now till your next milestone to prepare yourself to meet the chal-

lenges ahead. It’s better to build on a good impression rather than to overcome a poor one.

To you cadets who will receive your commission I say congratulations. You’ve met the challenge to become an officer; now get ready to take on new responsibilities. What’s in your future? Self-motivation has to be your watchword as you deal with the emotions and pressures of new and changing environs. You must embrace the spirit of Warrior Ethos and not just the words.

To you MS-IIIs coming to Warrior Forge this summer: have you done everything you need to do to succeed at Fort Lewis? Do you prepare to excel each day as you wake up? Unlike

the commissionees, your task is a known quantity; there are no real surprises here at camp - only subtle changes to the training. You should know right now what it takes to make a good impression and what you must do to succeed. The TACs will evaluate your performance and attitude, but you determine the outcome. The accessions process is also based on your preparation and focus - not on the perceptions of others.

So whether you’re commissioning or training, consider the expectations of others about you. You don’t get a “do over” on the business of first impressions. I wish you the best in all your endeavors this summer.



Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis Ferguson

Arctic Bn. Cadet wins Undergraduate class Presidency

By 2nd Lt. Chet Craw
Michigan Tech. Univ.

Cadet Philip Ribeiro of Michigan Technological University recently showed what the leadership he has learned in ROTC and a little motivation can do. In a sweeping victory in the recent campus elections, Ribeiro won the presidency of the Undergraduate Student Government. Ribeiro has proved that he has what it takes to make an impact on his environment both in and out of the classroom. In addition to his involve-

ment in the student government, Ribeiro was selected to attend a leadership seminar last year, sponsored by the university, which focused on student leaders. He is also a member of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry in the Wisconsin National Guard and serves as a platoon leader as part of the Simultaneous Membership Program. He graduated basic training at Fort Leonard Wood this past summer where he served as platoon guide during the entire training period. Ribeiro has taken all of these experiences and put them into prac-

tice in the ROTC program at Michigan Tech serving as a cadet platoon leader and cadet company commander. Despite his numerous responsibilities Ribeiro still finds time for himself; managing to maintain a 2.8 GPA, consistently score 300+ on the APFT and also play with the university orchestra as an accomplished violinist. In his free time he is active in the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity on campus. Ribeiro serves as an outstanding example to all of his fellow students and cadets, truly leading from the front.



2nd Lt. Chet Craw

Cadet Philip Ribeiro of Michigan Technological University has been elected Student Government President.

Alhambra team is one to watch

Silver medalists were a dark horse team only recently started

Courtesy of Alhambra JROTC

The Alhambra High School JROTC rifle team from Phoenix, Ariz., surprised everyone, including themselves, by winning the team Silver Medal at the Western Region Air Rifle Competitions and qualifying for the upcoming national competition. The match was held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., on Feb. 28 and 29.

Each member, as well as the coach, was presented a handsome medal worn around the neck and an attractive glass trophy was given to the entire team. In only three years since it was started, the Alhambra team defeated last year's top-ranking team and were only second to a team that has been winning for several years.

The competition required three shooting positions: prone, standing and kneeling. For each position, 10 shots are fired and each shot is worth 10 points. With each position being worth 100 points, a shooter could earn up to 300 points, although getting a score of 280 is about the highest score expected from a student using a sporter class rifle.

Currently, there are four team members who compete regularly, as well as two alternates. They are Cadets Bryan Galas, Team Commander, Armando Arvizu, Raquel Villalobos and Willy Dorman. Cadets Mike Jurczak, Jr., and Richard Tulloch are the first-year shooters who performed well enough throughout the year to become alternates for the varsity. Each of these cadets has their own personal story and history in the rifle team - why they joined, the fun they had and what they got out of being on this team.

Jurczak said he heard it was a challenge. He wanted a chance to travel, too. Summing up the whole year, he said, "I pretty much got what I expected." He was one of the few first-year shooters to remain at the end of the year and shot well for his experience.

Tulloch is also an exemplary first-year shooter. He originally joined so he could say he'd been on every team in JROTC - "bragging rights," the cadets call it. Once he joined, though, he really liked it and has a lot of fun with the team. He also said that the rifle team taught him a lot about himself, that "even though you're not sure of yourself, you should just try."

Galas is one of the more experienced team members. "I have been shooting since as far as I can really remember," he said. As a child, he learned to hunt and shoot with his father. When the rifle team started, he decided to join simply because it could be fun and he just wanted to shoot. He says he got a lot out of being on the rifle team and learned how to set goals, plus, it has given him many life skills. "I remember my first qualification - I shot a 195," Galas recalled. "I thought that I'd never be as good as some of the other shooters I'd seen, but here I am, shooting a national competition."

Arvizu was on the team for his second year. He joined the team because he needed a challenge and something new. Other cadets told him it was difficult because members have to get up early and it takes a lot of concentration - that's why it interested him. He thought being on the team has taught him a lot of communication skills and how to learn with new people around him. It taught him cooperation skills - how to talk to people and work with



Alhambra High School's Air Rifle Team practices the standing firing position as they prepare for the Western Region Cadet Command competitions. The team won the Silver Medal and individual awards.

them and to focus 100 percent on one thing. Arvizu plans to qualify in basic training this summer and he wants to continue shooting in the Army.


The team's top shooter is female (she puts special emphasis on that), Raquel Villalobos. In the match at Colorado Springs, she became the top female shooter, as well as the 7th-place shooter overall, in the United States sporter class division. As a child, her mother taught her how to shoot, but she later lost interest in weapons. Wanting to become more comfortable with them again, she decided to join the rifle team, "Knowing that I would do well on this team."

She also said she dotes on her coach, 1st Sgt. Michael Jurczak (Senior), and considers him to be like a father figure.

"I remember the tryouts, and I remember thinking that I wanted to prove to him that I could do this. And now I'm proud to say that I'll be the first shooter that he'll have for a full four years at this school and the only consistent female shooter that he's had since he's been here."

The rifle team has taught her many things, especially about keeping a positive mindset in times of difficulty and to compromise and adapt when things aren't going well.

"Before every match," she said, "I say to myself, I will do well today. No matter what happens, no matter how bad I am shooting, I will come back and do well."

And they did just that at Colorado Springs and expect to continue doing well. 

Flag patch reflects battle guidon

By Lisa Burgess
Stars and Stripes - Europe

Why do American Soldiers wear the U.S. flag insignia "backward" on the right shoulder of their utility uniforms, with the canton (the rectangle with the stars) on an observer's right?

It's a question that Soldiers hear frequently as they travel through civilian airports, or talk to members of other services.

And it does look "wrong," because U.S. federal code calls for the canton to always be positioned to the left.

The Soldiers aren't wrong, however, and neither are their tailors, Lt. Col. Stanley Heath, an Army spokesman, explained in a telephone interview.

The Army actually has two authorized flag patches, one to be worn on the left shoulder, with the canton facing left, and another "reverse field" patch worn on the right, with the canton facing right.

The two different orientations are mandated because Army regulations call for the flag "to be worn so that to observers, it looks as if the flag is flying against a breeze," Heath said.

What does a stiff wind have to do with this custom?

In fact, the rule is a nod to the U.S. Army's early history, when wars were fought as a series of carefully choreographed battles — two armies meeting on a field, clashing head-on until one side emerged victorious.

In those battles, both mounted cavalry and infantry units would always designate one Soldier as "standard bearer," to carry the Colors into the fight.

As the standard bearer charged, his rapid forward momentum would cause the flag to stream back.

And since the Stars and Stripes is mounted with the canton closest to the pole, that section would always be forward.

So if a Soldier is charging into the battle, the flag would give the appearance of forward motion. For the right shoulder, the flag only appears "backward."

And that's why Soldiers wear the flag patches on the right shoulder "backward." Because retreat in battle, as any Soldier will tell you, is not the Army way.

Razorbacks go Hog Wild

By Maj. Chuck Adkins
University of Arkansas

On Feb. 28, Army Junior ROTC cadets from Arkansas and Oklahoma participated in the 10th Annual Hog Wild Drill Meet sponsored by the “Razorback Brigade” Army ROTC, University of Arkansas - Fayetteville.

“There were 11 teams that registered for the annual event,” said Master Sgt. Jeff Prude, UAF Operations NCO and MS-II Instructor, “with over 170 JROTC cadets competing for individual and team medals and trophies as well as the coveted Commanders Trophy awarded



Northeastern State University Cadet Ryan Nelson (left), University of Arkansas - Fayetteville Cadet Shaan Patel (next on right) and UAF Cadet Kyle Friesen (kneeling) score Brookland High School cadets in the Sit-up competition.

the University of Arkansas Admissions Office. “Maj. Adkins invited me to attend the drill meet and set up an information booth to recruit students interested in attending the University of Arkansas,” Brumsfield said. “I’ve spoken to several prospects today. Watching these students compete has been awesome. You can tell they have put a lot of hard work towards this competition.”

In addition, senior cadets and cadre from the University of Arkansas and Northeastern State University provided the junior cadets with information on their programs and schools. Sgt. 1st Class Brad Edge, a recruiter with the Arkansas Army National Guard, enjoys attending the meets as it gives him a chance to work with the cadre to recruit for the National Guard and Army ROTC. “Many of these junior ROTC cadets here today are the Simultaneous Membership Program cadets of tomorrow.”

The high school teams competing this year came from the South-
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The 10th Annual Hog Wild Drill Meet was led by the University of Arkansas’ cadet battalion command and staff.

to the overall best JROTC school.”

Event categories ranged from squad, platoon and individual level drill contests, with and without weapons, exhibition drill with and without weapons, color guard competition, in-ranks inspection and the Physical Fitness Challenge with team and individual competition. Prude explained how the Physical Fitness Challenge consisted of sit-ups, push-ups, shuttle run, 50-yard dash, pull-ups and the sit and reach.

Evaluating the drill meet were senior ROTC cadets from the University of Arkansas - Fayetteville and its partnership school, Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., supported by UAF senior Air Force ROTC cadets, recruiters from the Arkansas Army National Guard, U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Air Force. Members of the Razorback Brigade Ranger Challenge Team evaluated the Physical Fitness Challenge.

For Cadet Loan L. Vo, there is always a sense of ‘deja-vu’ with every Hog Wild Drill Meet. Vo competed in the meets for four years as a Junior ROTC cadet from Fort

Smith, Ark., Northside High School. Now, instead of competing, she is an evaluator for the Color Guard Competition.

“To me personally, the experience has really helped me to judge them,” Vo said. “It takes a lot of hard work and I know the feeling of winning and going home with second place.” As a high school senior, Vo took overall best female in the Physical Fitness Challenge and her high school won the Commander’s Trophy during the 2001 Hog Wild Drill Meet. Vo is now a UAF junior majoring in Industrial Engineering.

Mickey Neff drove the bus for Brookland High School. Neff is familiar with extracurricular activities, driving the bus regularly for sports and other competitions. However, ROTC is a new addition. “This is the first year Brookland has offered Army Junior ROTC,” said Neff, “It’s a good program and I’ve seen a lot of changes in these kids. ROTC has made a positive difference in their lives.”

Between competitions, high school cadets had an opportunity to meet with Randall Brumsfield from



UAF Cadet Drew Cronkhite (far right) readies Newport High School cadets in the Shuttle Run competition.



UAF Cadet Loan Vo (right) evaluates the Tahlequah High School Color Guard Team as they demonstrate their proficiency.

UTA hosts diversity summit

By Cadet Aricel Guerrero
University of Texas at Austin

On Jan. 29, The University of Texas at Austin hosted the "Summit and Symposium: Educating for a Diverse America," a forum for discussion about diversity in the public sector and the workplace. Moderated by Lt. Col. Kathleen J. Taylor, Professor of Military Science at University of Texas at Austin, the panel's members included:

Prof. John S. Butler, Dept. of Management; UTA Commissioner Roel Campos, Securities and Exchange Commission; Retired Admiral Bob Inman, Managing Partner with Gefinor Ventures and Professor, LBJ School of Public Affairs The University of Texas at Austin; Navy Capt. Robert D. Watts, Commandant, Defense Equal Opportunity Operations Management Institute; and Thurmond B. Woodard, Chief Ethics Officer and Vice President of Global Diversity, Dell Inc.

The university held this symposium hoping the panel discussion would yield some ideas to help the university address its diversity issues and concerns, including military programs designed to create an environment that promotes organizational behavior valuing individual differences and similarities, fostering an



Standing with Cadet Aricel Guerrero (left) are Prof. John S. Butler, Retired Admiral Bob Inman, Navy Capt. Robert D. Watts, Roel Campos, Thurmond B. Woodard and Lt. Col. Kathleen J. Taylor.

understanding of the human environment with appreciation for gender, race, culture and ethnicity.

Watts made an interesting point early in the discussion, saying, "The Department of Defense does not define diversity." With a work force that includes so many different people, it was an important point, since the military continues to be a leading force in the drive to create and maintain a diverse working environment where each person not only feels respected and treated with dignity, but they also feel they are a


valued member with opportunities for advancement. Leadership by example is the best means of creating a positive working environment.

Currently the Army is addressing diversity through the Consideration of Others program (CO2). CO2 training is targeted at small groups to create proactive, and vignette discussion-based conversations. The objective is the deeper understanding of others and oneself through an exchange of candid thoughts and expression of feelings. Soldiers then begin to learn to subordinate indi-

vidual views for the benefit of the organization. It is their mutual mission that ultimately draws Soldiers or cadets together, although no one is expected to give up their individuality

The conclusions reached at the symposium are still under discussion pending a definite decision how to solve the diversity problems at UTA, but there was a consensus among the panel members about where to start - changes begin at the top. They also agreed that a diversity-training plan must be developed. Watts said, "In order for people to buy into the necessity of diversity they have to be educated to embrace diversity and its benefits rather than seeing it as a burden."

"Workforce diversity is smart business," Woodard said. "It opens markets, lifts morale, and enhances productivity." The Army is an example to many other organizations because it has made great strides in creating a diverse military. In the Army it's a central program which flows through Army units, anchored and supported by the leadership. It isn't something forced on Soldiers; it springs from within.

And, while diversity training is necessary, lifestyle changes are what will ultimately make improvements permanent. 

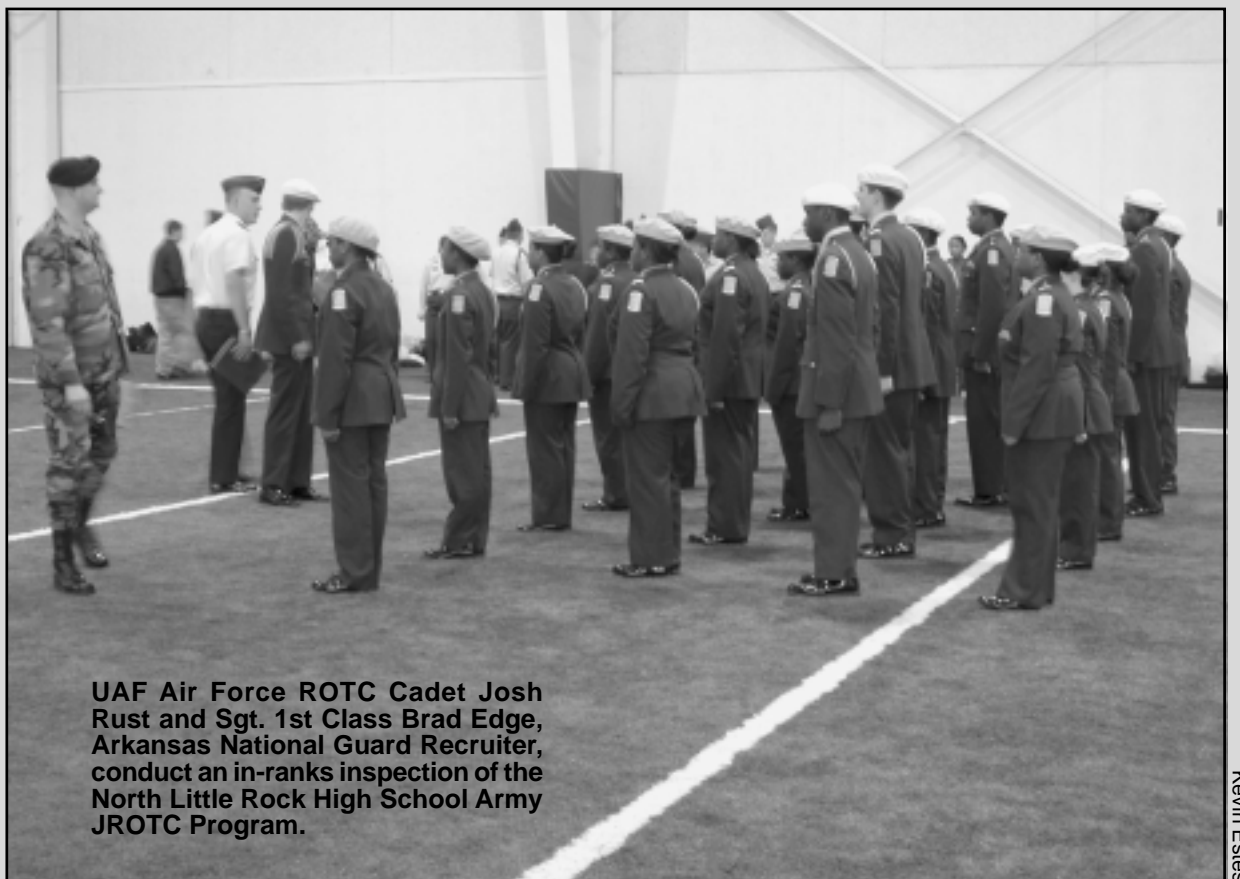
"Hog Wild," Cont. from Page 4

west Area Career Center, Brookland, Malvern, Newport, North Little Rock, Van Buren, Sheridan, Watson Chapel, all of which are in Arkansas, and Tahlequah in Oklahoma.

"There were only 14 points separating the top three teams," said Lt. Col. William H. Land III, PMS, University of Arkansas.

Taking home the 2004 Hog Wild Drill Meet Commander's Trophy was Van Buren High School with a total of 1,925 points. Second place went to North Little Rock with 1,918 points and third place went to Sheridan with 1,911 points.

Maj. (Ret) Mike Akins, who has been the Senior Army Instructor at Van Buren High School for four years, said, "We go to about six events per year, but this is the big one for Junior ROTC units in Arkansas. The cadets at the University of Arkansas do a great job putting this meet on. It's always very well organized."



Kevin Estes

Nanooks zero in on marksmanship

Story and photos by
Cadet Nanci L. Morrison

It might be 22 degrees below zero outdoors, but the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Nanook Battalion is hard at work indoors. On Feb. 7, the cadets were learning the fundamentals of rifle marksmanship, despite the chilling cold outside.

The Nanooks began their day by reviewing marksmanship fundamentals. Sgt. 1st Class Charles Inderrieden led the battalion in classes on the four fundamentals - breathing, trigger squeeze, sight picture and steady positioning. Following that instruction, the cadets practiced and applied those skills with dime-and-washer drills, shadow box, and rifle range application. The local Alaska National Guard armory supplied various weapons (M-9 Pistol, M-16 Rifle, M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon and M-240B Light Machine Gun) for use by the cadets.




An indoor range and subcaliber firing devices are both handy tools used by the Nanook Battalion to ensure they have the opportunity to practice Basic Rifle Marksmanship despite the freezing cold.



A cadet from the University of Alaska - Fairbanks learns how to disassemble and assemble the M-9 pistol.

The marksmanship lab culminated at UAF’s indoor rifle range normally used by the Nanooks’ five-time, NCAA rifle champions. The M-16s’ bolts were substituted with a .22 subcaliber firing device to comply with the indoor-range limitations. Cadet Lee Monzon said, “I am excited to be firing the weapon. I have been eagerly waiting for this lab from the moment that I heard about it.” When the cadets finally made it to the range, they were able to actualize the skills that they had been taught. They zeroed and performed Basic Rifle Marksmanship.

A “Nanook” can be defined simply as the native Alaskan word for polar bear. “A Nanook cadet is dedicated to learning the Army leadership principles,” Cadet battalion commander Jeremiah Dearing said, “in order to provide superb leadership. In addition, the Army values and the development of the warrior ethos are a fundamental part of the UAF ROTC curriculum. It is the will to serve and protect, but in conditions that would break the normal spirit. It is a level of commitment that cannot easily be compared to others.” 


“McCoy,” cont. from Page 1

the Ram Battalion’s Operations Officer and sophomore instructor for Army cadets in the Military Science program. What makes this award especially significant for McCoy was the relatively short exposure time to his students prior to his nomination and the fact that it marks the first time a Military Science instructor was selected for the award at the university.

The Alumni Association chooses its “best teachers” from the nominations sent in directly from the students. Based on the nominations received, the Alumni Association used the following criteria to determine the instructor’s merit: dedication, mentorship and a true desire for the student’s success. Often, it’s not the number of nominations submitted, but the quality of those nominations that decides who is selected from an impressive pool of professors. One student said of McCoy, “I have never had a professor who really cared for the success of his students the way Capt. McCoy does. He is the most straightforward guy I know and has a genuine care for where his students and cadets

are going to end up.” McCoy’s Army career assignments have included leading a tank platoon in Korea, serving as a Scout Platoon Leader in Bosnia with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and as the C Troop commander, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry that spearheaded 3rd Infantry Division’s invasion of Iraq. In this, McCoy’s troop was instrumental in three crucial battles that ultimately led to the demise of Saddam Hussein’s regime. Although spending nine years and several overseas deployments during his tenure with the U.S. Army, McCoy is actually a Colorado native. He graduated from Lake County High School in Leadville, Colo., in 1991 and attended the University of Colorado, where he graduated with a degree in Political Science and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in Armor in May of 1995. Upon receiving the Best Teacher award, McCoy said he was honored and humbled the students had formed such a positive opinion about him in such a short amount of time. He said he was truly grateful to contribute to the future warrior leaders of the Army.

“Bogalusa,” cont. from Page 1

This year, following their Western Region win, Bogalusa will be shooting against the best competition in the United States at the 2004 JROTC National Championships in Fort Benning, Ga. Fredieu said there are several things that keep them on top. First and foremost, a strong parental support group. Bogalusa parents raise the money for equipment and travel, travel with the team and always give 100 percent support to the team and the coach. Second, they get to the Civilian Marksmanship Program or National Rifle Association shooting camps. This is essential in a young shooter’s development. Start early - Fredieu coaches eighth graders, too. Take cadets back to camps more than once. They learn each and every year that they attend. Third, shoot shoulder-to-shoulder matches. Bogalusa traditionally shoots 20 - 25 shoulder-to-shoulder matches per year. Publicize your results - especially when they’re positive. Young people love seeing their names and faces in the paper. Finally, he tells coaches to forget most of what they learned about shooting in the military. Three-Position air is a completely different game. 

Cadets, Journalism students join forces

By Christopher Mapp
USM Student Printz newspaper

As Soldiers-in-training, Army ROTC cadets at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg learn how to march in time, fire a weapon and defend their country. This semester, however, the Department of Military Science teamed up with the School of Mass Communication and Journalism to teach skills better suited for the briefing room than the battlefield.

As part of a joint endeavor, senior cadets reached out to journalism students in an attempt to improve their media-relations skills. Both departments are in the College of Arts and Letters.

Writing, briefing and problem solving are but a few of the tactics up-and-coming officers developed during the course. Journalism students benefited by acting as “embedded” reporters during ROTC activities, including a three-day field training exercise at Camp Shelby, Feb. 27-29.

The end result, Lt. Col. Kevin Dougherty hopes, could help improve relations between the two professions. “I think if you get ROTC and journalism students together,” he said, “you’ll find they like the same things - pizza, music, movies. The more time they spend together, the more they see that they’re alike. At this crucial point in their careers, we want to teach them about trust and familiarity.”

“Embedding journalists gave us an opportunity to show the other side of what we do,” said Cadet KaRensa Polk. Along with improv-

ing the military’s image and closing the divide with journalists, she hopes ROTC students will learn valuable new skills from this project. “An important key to being a leader is having good communication skills. People see us as just fighters, but we do so much more. We may have a uniform on, but we’re also human underneath.”

The first journalist to volunteer for the project was Chad Applebaum, photo editor for the *Student Printz*. Applebaum said he was “thrilled to have an opportunity to work with the ROTC on campus.”

“In our profession, you interact with a lot of different people,” Applebaum said, “and, as students, we need to be prepared to deal with that. Plus, I think this project will help bridge the gap between the two student organizations.”

Other “embedded” opportunities this semester include a Black Hawk helicopter orientation on campus, paintball exercises at Camp Shelby, an intercollegiate field-training competition, a military ball and finally, commissioning of officers.

Dougherty said a panel discussion featuring military, journalism and student representatives is planned for later this spring.

Maj. Gregory Hargett, an assistant professor of military science at Southern Miss, said he knew of no other program in the country where cadets could interact with student journalists in the field.

“This is a chance for journalism students to come in and observe the day in the life of a cadet,” Hargett said. “We want them to see everything, warts and all, and report what they see. As Soldiers, we feel we don’t have anything to hide.”

Sun Devils conduct Desert Ranger FTX

By Cadet Heath A. Bixel



Cadet Victor Chon

The Desert Ranger club at their FTX site.

Early on the morning of Nov. 23, a small group of cadets from the Desert Ranger program at Arizona State University was already in uniform and drawing equipment while most other ASU students were still in bed. In just a couple hours, they would be boarding two UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters and heading into the desert northeast of Phoenix for a two-day FTX.

Desert Rangers is a cadet-run club that provides supplementary training to any ASU cadet who wishes to join. They have been a part of ROTC at Arizona State since the 1960s and have a long-standing history and traditions. In the 1960s, the club was formed to help prepare cadets for Ranger School. Today, Desert Rangers help cadets prepare for Warrior Forge by introducing young cadets to Army discipline, along with training and leadership opportunities that many would not otherwise see until their MS-III year. Meeting one night a week and the occasional Saturday, they train to move farther, faster and fight harder than any of their peers. The semester culminates in part with the Desert Ranger FTX.

The 45-minute helicopter flight took the cadets on a roller coaster ride hugging the terrain, before touching down on the designated landing zone. Holding their rucksacks and equipment in their arms, they quickly dismounted from the helicopters and took up prone positions while the helicopters lifted off. The cadets donned their equipment and established a movement formation, moving off the LZ for their Objective Rally Point.

Terrain forced the element to move down a steep embankment and down a dry creek bed, putting them behind schedule. The ORP fell farther from the objective than planned and the leaders’ recon was cut short. The main body moved out after a short rest in the ORP. A successful squad attack on the objective, an abandoned water cistern, and the Desert Rangers moved into a hasty defense, digging in fighting positions. The long night, from 5 p.m. until 7 a.m., had the element sending out small recon patrols, setting ambushes and defending their position from probing attacks by the Opposing Force (OPFOR). As the sun came up, the Desert Rangers were met with one final enemy attack.

The Desert Rangers were finally able to move off the objective, carrying all the equipment to the waiting vehicles and enjoy an MRE for breakfast around the fire where the OPFOR stayed fairly warm most the night. When they finally remounted the UH-60s later that morning for the flight back home, they did so better trained, more experienced and a little wiser than when they had dismounted those same helicopters the day before. Equally important, they had grown as a team, building high esprit de corps and taking one step closer to being future leaders.

2nd Louie

By Bob Rosenburgh



Cadet Creed defines goals and duties

Extracted from
Cadet Cmd Pam 145-7, Sept. 1, 2002

The Cadet Creed, in a few carefully selected words, explains what is expected of an Army cadet. The Cadet Creed is a key element in the traditions of Cadet Command and is used to the maximum extent possible. There are two primary uses for the Creed. It is read to cadets prior to contracting and at other appropriate ceremonies and the words are prominently and dramatically displayed at each region and cadet battalion headquarters.

I am an Army Cadet. Soon I will take an oath and become an Army Officer committed to DEFENDING the values, which make this Nation great. HONOR is my touchstone. I understand MISSION first and PEOPLE always.

I am the PAST – the spirit of those WARRIORS who have made the final sacrifice.
I am the PRESENT – the scholar and apprentice Soldier enhancing my skills in the science of warfare and the art of leadership.

But above all, I am the FUTURE – the future WARRIOR LEADER of the United States Army. May God give me the compassion and judgment to lead and the gallantry in battle to WIN.
I WILL do my DUTY.

A further explanation, when appropriate, accompanies the reading of the Cadet Creed. Points to be emphasized in the explanation follow.

“DEFENDING the values which make the Nation great.” Cadets, upon being commissioned, take an oath to defend, with their lives when necessary, the Constitution of the United States of America. This document, created more than two centuries ago after our Nation’s valiant struggle for independence, is the keystone of our way of life, the world’s most wondrous democracy. Our Nation derives its strength from the consent of the governed. The basic tenets of our Constitution are that all people have certain natural inalienable rights, are born equal and must be treated equal before the law. These are powerful words which have meaning only as long as we, as Americans, are willing to defend our value system as embodied in our Constitution. This, each Army cadet officer is honor bound to do, both as a cadet and later as a commissioned officer.

“HONOR is my touchstone.” Honor is used in two ways when referring to Army ROTC cadets. Serving the people of the United States as a commissioned officer is an honor afforded only a small fraction of our young men and women. More importantly, “with honor” describes how an Army cadet will serve upon being commissioned. Honor is the bedrock upon

which the Army officer builds a successful career. Honor encompasses integrity and dedication. Honor is the thread which holds together the fabric of our Army as it discharges its critical mission of being the strategic force which maintains the integrity of our Nation and peace in our world. Serving with honor begins in the cadet years and builds throughout a career.

“MISSION first and PEOPLE always.” The Army cadet who lives by these five words will always get the job done, which is the essence of being an Army officer. A commissioned officer has a sacred obligation to take care of the men and women entrusted to the unit—to guide, train, teach, and counsel. The leader who cares for people will always command the respect and dedicated service of those commanded, assuring the mission accomplishment.

“I am the PAST.” The legacy of the Army cadet dates to the colonial Army which won our independence. It has been enriched by each generation that served in time of peace—to safeguard our security, and in time of war—to secure victory through supreme sacrifice. The tradition of the Army cadet is to live up to the magnificent example set by their former comrades-in-arms, in our land and overseas, as the guardians of liberty.

“I am the PRESENT.” Army cadets are competent Americans who are molded into superior leaders through a commitment to excellence by the officers and noncommissioned officers who make up Cadet Command. The skills of the Army cadet are enhanced in the classroom, at training exercises, at LDAC and LTC, through Ranger Challenge, and the Cadet Professional Development Training (CPDT) Program. The Army cadet dedicated to excellence will become an officer who is both a war winner and a respected leader.

“I am the FUTURE.” Army cadets are indeed the Army’s future officer leadership. Into the hands of Army cadets across the Nation will be placed the responsibility of leading the outstanding young Americans who fill the enlisted ranks of our Army. Our Army cadets will be challenged to maintain and strengthen our Army—to master the futuristic weapons systems being fielded. Being an officer-leader will be both a challenge and an opportunity. Each Army cadet must live up to his or her full potential to become a warrior leader with the “right stuff” to be a war winner.

“I WILL do my DUTY.” Doing one’s duty encompasses all the traits inherent in being an Army cadet and an Army officer. In the words of one of America’s most respected Army commanders, Gen. Robert E. Lee, “Duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.”

The Cadet Creed can be a powerful training tool to imbue in our cadets those traits of profes-

sionalism and leadership which will serve them when they earn their commissions. Make full use of the Creed. It is another example of the traditions we are building within Cadet Command.



Soldier’s Creed

Every American Soldier must follow the Soldier’s Creed and, upon commissioning and the Oath of Office, it becomes the appropriate one for new Army officers.

I am an American Soldier.
I am a Warrior and a member of a team. I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.
I will always place the mission first.
I will never accept defeat.
I will never quit.
I will never leave a fallen comrade.
I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills. I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.
I am an expert and I am a professional. I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.
I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.
I am an American Soldier.

Omaha cadets earn top honors



By Lt. Col. (Ret.) Walter A. Kazor
DAI, Omaha Public High Schools

Two students from the Omaha Public Schools have been awarded the Army’s Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Achievement at a ceremony held during a meeting of the full district school board. Cadet Jordan Jacobs, Central High School and Cadet Jamie Demson, North High School, are among 24 JROTC students nationwide receiving the Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Achievement. Cadets are chosen for the award based on leadership abilities, academics, community and school activities and JROTC participation.